

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Beyond the Bookshelf Luncheon: Featuring Keynote Speaker Maria Shriver**

**NAPLES, FL** (September 3, 2025) - Grace Place for Children and Families is proud to announce its upcoming event, *Beyond the Bookshelf*, a special luncheon dedicated to celebrating literacy, resilience, and the dreams of children in our community. The event will take place on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 12:30 PM at the elegant Grey Oaks Country Club in Naples, FL.

This year's luncheon will feature a keynote conversation with Maria Shriver, an award-winning journalist, bestselling author, and passionate advocate for women, families, and brain health. Born into both the Kennedy and Shriver families, Shriver has carved out her own legacy by championing causes that uplift women and strengthen communities. A vocal advocate for economic equality, leadership opportunities, and breaking societal barriers, she embodies the same values that Grace Place instills through its work—empowerment through education, resilience in the face of challenges, and the creation of opportunities for brighter futures.

At the luncheon, she will bring these perspectives to life, sharing her insights on the importance of education, resilience, and opportunity for all. Guests will also enjoy a silent auction and book signing session.

All proceeds from *Beyond the Bookshelf* will benefit Grace Place for Children and Families, a nonprofit organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty for children and families in Collier County. Through education, empowerment, and community support, Grace Place provides the tools and resources necessary for families to achieve self-sufficiency and success.

The event is presented with support from Gulfshore Life, serving as media sponsor. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available now. Don't miss this inspiring afternoon—reserve your seats today at <https://beyond2025.givesmart.com>.

For more information on Grace Place, visit [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org).

### **ABOUT GRACE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Grace Place for Children and Families, founded in 2004, is a nonprofit family literacy center committed to providing pathways out of poverty by educating children and families. Grace Place enrolls over 1,300

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individuals in its education programs each year, offering the nationally recognized early learning initiative Bright Beginnings (nursery to 4 years old), which involves a parent in the early learning needed to be kindergarten ready, and comprehensive School Age Programs (grades K-12) funded by the Florida Department of Education. The organization also provides Adult Education courses and operates a Food Pantry serving hundreds of families weekly. For more information about Grace Place for Children and Families and to explore volunteer opportunities, visit [www.graceplacenaples.org](http://www.graceplacenaples.org).

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